

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/938,310
Amendment Accompanying RCE dated March 3, 2004
Reply to OA of **January 8, 2004**

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-35 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new claims 36-46 as follows:

Claim 36 (New): A method for increasing the hydrosilylation activity of a vinyl polymer having at least one reactive functional group per molecule, comprising contacting said vinyl polymer into contact with oxygen or sodium percarbonate.

Claim 37 (New): The method according to Claim 36, wherein said vinyl polymer is obtained by atom transfer radical polymerization of a vinyl monomer using a transition metal complex as a polymerization catalyst.

Claim 38 (New): The method according to Claim 36, wherein said reactive functional group is located at the molecular chain terminus of said vinyl polymer.

Claim 39 (New): The method according to Claim 36, wherein said vinyl polymer comprises an alkenyl group at the molecular chain terminus, and is obtained by adding a compound having two or more sparingly polymerizable carbon-carbon double bonds during polymerization or after completion of polymerization in an atom transfer radical polymerization system.

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Claim 40 (New): The method according to Claim 36,
wherein said vinyl polymer is a (meth)acrylic polymer.

Claim 41 (New): Th method according to Claim 36,
wherein said vinyl polymer has a number average molecular weight of 500 to 100000.

Claim 42 (New): The method according to Claim 36,
wherein said vinyl polymer has a molecular weight distribution value of less than 1.8.

Claim 43 (New): The method according to Claim 36,
wherein the center metal of the transition metal catalyst belongs to group 8, group 9, group
10 or group 11 of the periodic table of the elements.

Claim 44 (New): The method according to Claim 36,
wherein the center metal of the transition metal catalyst is iron, nickel, ruthenium or copper.

Claim 45 (New): The method according to Claim 36,
wherein a polyamine compound is used as a catalyst ligand for atom transfer radical
polymerization.

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Claim 46 (New): The method according to Claim 36,
wherein said reactive functional group is a functional group selected from the group
consisting of alkenyl, crosslinkable silyl, hydroxyl, epoxy, amino and amido.